

## **Section 4    Sevier River Basin DEMOGRAPHICS AND ECONOMIC FUTURE**

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## Section Four      Sevier River Basin - State Water Plan

# Demographics and Economic Future

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**The Sevier River Basin is a rural agricultural area although it is the economic center of central Utah. Recreation is a growing part of the economy.**

### 4.1 INTRODUCTION

This section discusses the population, employment and economic future of the Sevier River Basin. The basin population was about 38,000 in 1900. Many of the smaller rural communities have lost population or have remained about the same since the turn of the century. Eureka had the largest drop going from a population of 3,085 in 1900 to 716 in 1997. Several other communities show fluctuations reflecting local activities. Sanpete County remained essentially the same from 1900 (16,313) until 1990 (16,259) although it has been growing during the 1990s.

The basin population was 47,508 in 1990. It had increased to 56,746 by 1997 and is expected to be 85,974 by 2020. This will be an increase of 29,228 people or 52 percent from 1997 to 2020. The annual rate of population growth is expected to be 1.82 percent.

Employment patterns should not change much although government, trade and service sectors will continue to increase. Agricultural employment is expected to slow down while other sectors will show steady growth. There will be an estimated 17,553 new jobs, for an annual growth rate of 2.1 percent.

The Governor's Office of Planning and Budget prepared the projected population estimates. The Division of Water Resources then used these estimates as a basis for estimating the culinary water supply requirements shown in Section 11, Drinking Water. Projections for agricultural, industrial and secondary water use were also influenced by population projections.

All residents of Piute and nearly all of Sevier and Sanpete counties live in the basin. The

majority of the population of Millard County and part of the population of Garfield, Iron, Kane and Juab counties also live within the basin. There is only an isolated ranch or two in Beaver and Tooele counties. Richfield is the major population center with 7,040 people in 1997. Ephraim, with 3,838 people and Delta with 3,443 people are other centers of activity.

### 4.2 DEMOGRAPHICS

Richfield has 38 percent of the Sevier County population while Ephraim has 19 percent of Sanpete County and Delta has 28 percent of Millard County. The unincorporated areas account for 17 percent of the total basin population. The communities are the economic and social center for the area and reflect the rural atmosphere. Richfield is the regional center for many state and federal agencies.

Communities with the highest growth rates are Richfield and Salina, at 2.2 percent. The unincorporated population is increasing in some counties but in some cases, may face annexation by nearby cities and towns. See Table 4-1 for community populations and projections.

Data for 1990 reflects the April census count after correcting for geography mistakes and/or other changes since the 1990 census. Data for 1997 are estimates of the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget. Figures 4-1 a and 4-1b present the information for 1990 to 2020.

The Governor's Office of Planning and Budget made additional extrapolations to aid in estimating long-range municipal and industrial water demands. Assuming a constant annual growth rate beyond 2020 of about 1.9 percent, the population would increase to about 150,000 by 2050. See Table 4-2.

Table 4- 1  
POPULATION AND PROJECTIONS

City	1990	1997	2000	2020
<b>Garfield</b>				
Antimony	83	112	115	139
Hatch	103	106	109	132
Panguitch	1,444	1,623	1,722	2,300
Unincorporated	250	300	350	400
County Total	1,880	2,141	2,296	2,971
<b>Iron</b>				
Unincorporated	150	200	250	500
<b>Juab</b>				
Eureka	562	716	731	841
Levan	416	644	668	851
Unincorporated	50	55	55	100
County Total	1,028	1,415	1,454	1,792
<b>Kane</b>				
Unincorporated	150	200	275	400
<b>Millard</b>				
Delta	<b>2,998</b>	3,443	3,709	5,241
Fillmore	1,956	2,161	2,324	3,258
Hinckley	658	730	769	993
Holden	402	425	444	557
Kanosh	386	402	412	468
Learnington	253	266	269	288
Lynndyl	120	105	107	119
Meadow	250	266	268	283
Oak City	587	660	682	805
Scipio	291	347	373	522
Unincorporated	3,432	3,455	3,552	4,113
County Total	11,333	12,260	12,909	16,647
<b>Piute</b>				
Circleville	417	521	535	604
Junction	132	136	154	238
Kingston	134	183	201	290
Marysvale	364	475	510	678
Unincorporated	230	252	270	354
County Total	1,277	1,567	1,670	2,164

Table 4- 1 -- Continued POPULATION AND PROJECTIONS				
City	1990	1997	2000	2020
<b>Sanpete</b>				
Centerfield	766	837	905	1,340
Ephraim	3,363	3,838	4,178	6,354
<b>Fairview</b>	960	1,265	1,367	2,020
Fayette	183	209	225	330
Fountain Green	578	833	906	1,376
Gunnison	1,298	2,164	2,344	3,498
Manti	2,268	2,718	2,956	4,479
<b>Mayfield</b>	438	499	537	781
<b>Moroni</b>	1,115	1,701	1,851	2,809
Mount Pleasant	2,092	2,678	2,895	4,288
Spring City	715	893	968	1,447
Sterling	191	250	269	391
Wales	189	214	230	335
Unincorporated	2,103	2,566	2,733	3,804
County Total	16,259	20,665	22,364	33,252
<b>Sevier</b>				
Annabella	487	571	611	870
Aurora	911	992	1,065	1,541
Elsinore	608	689	742	1,088
<b>Glenwood</b>	437	530	570	829
Joseph	198	241	257	361
Koosharem	266	321	344	500
Monroe	1,472	1,945	2,096	3,082
Redmond	648	767	823	1,186
Richfield	5,593	7,040	7,622	11,427
Salina	1,943	2,258	2,449	3,707
Sigurd	385	497	526	716
Unincorporated	2,483	2,447	2,513	2,945
County total	15,431	18,298	19,618	28,248
<b>Basin Total</b>	47,508	56,746	60,836	85,974

### 4.3 EMPLOYMENT

Agriculture is expected to remain steady or decrease slightly although there will be increases in agricultural related jobs such as lawn care, soil preparation, and veterinary and animal services. Two new saw mills, one near Gunnison and one by Vermillion, should add to the employment. Mining is expected to increase as coal production in Salina Canyon expands. All other sectors will likely grow with services increasing at the most rapid rate. In fact, 65 percent of the workers in

Garfield County were involved in the travel and recreation industry in 1996 with Sevier County a distant second with 11 percent. Basin employment will increase at an annual rate of 2.1 percent. See Table 4-3 and Figure 4-2.

The employment shown in Table 4-3 may indicate more jobs than there is population. This indicates some of the people are employed on more than one job.

Figure 4-l a  
POPULATION PROJECTIONS

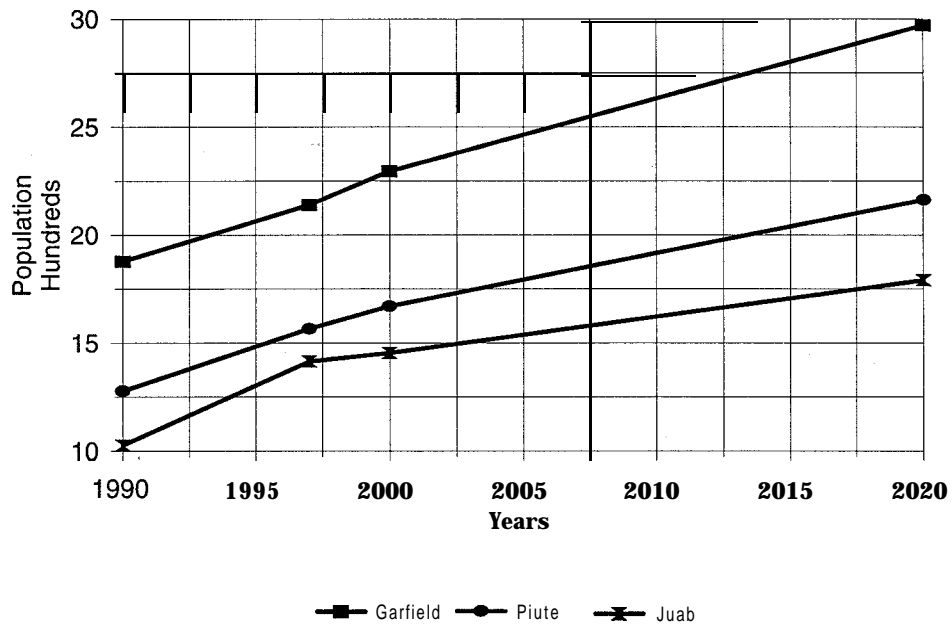


Figure 4-lb  
POPULATION PROJECTIONS

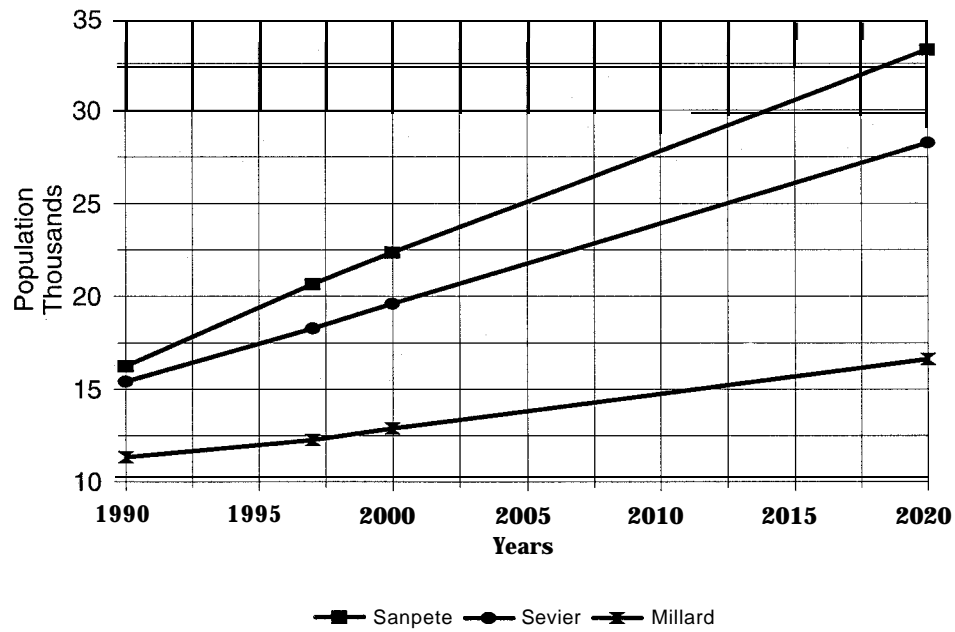


Table 4-2 LONG-RANGE POPULATION ESTIMATES			
County	1990	2020	2050
Garfield	1,880	2,971	<b>6,570</b>
Iron	150	500	<b>779</b>
Juab	1,028	1,792	<b>4,592</b>
<b>Kane</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>1,148</b>
Millard	11,333	16,647	<b>24,378</b>
Piute	1,277	2,164	3,192
Sanpete	16,259	<b>33,252</b>	<b>60,282</b>
Sevier	15,431	<b>28,248</b>	<b>48,808</b>
<b>Basin Total</b>	<b>47,508</b>	<b>85,974</b>	<b>149,749</b>

#### 4.4 ECONOMIC FUTURE

The long-term outlook for the economy is positive. In addition to the projected employment, increasing numbers of people are

moving into the area after retirement. Recreation is growing and will likely continue to expand.

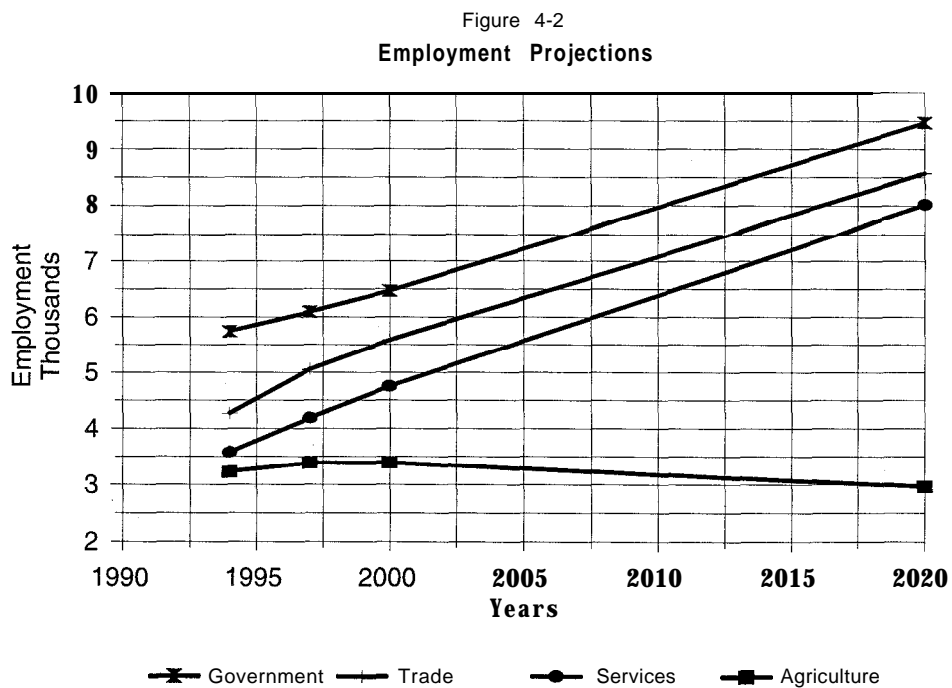


Table 4-3 EMPLOYMENT PROJECTIONS				
County/Sector	1994	1997	2000	2020
<b>Garfield</b>				
Agriculture	279	280	278	242
Mining	27	24	128	149
Construction	61	78	80	98
Manufacturing	117	99	116	173
TCPU	87	109	120	168
Trade	254	265	308	431
FIRE	20	20	26	32
Services	699	813	940	1,496
Government	514	518	547	792
Non-Farm Prop	450	495	561	818
County Total	2,508	2,701	3,104	4,399
<b>Juab</b>				
Agriculture	290	303	301	262
Mining	19	13	15	24
Construction	112	73	87	152
Manufacturing	321	324	347	444
TCPU	54	81	89	141
Trade	561	726	792	1,194
FIRE	39	35	37	53
Services	495	562	633	1,070
Government	535	561	570	812
Non-Farm Prop	404	449	494	759
County Total	2,830	3,127	3,365	4,911
<b>Millard</b>				
Agriculture	868	921	943	837
Mining	169	114	125	198
Construction	86	100	136	272
Manufacturing	150	219	230	282
TCPU	706	702	716	787
Trade	837	970	1,060	1,532
FIRE	60	57	62	84
Services	558	613	692	1,129
Government	1001	1,025	1,040	1,405
Non-Farm Prop	1083	1,209	1,332	1,974
County Total	5,518	5,930	6,336	8,499

Table 4-3 -- Continued  
EMPLOYMENT PROJECTIONS

County/Sector	1994	1997	2000	2020
<b>Piute</b>				
Agriculture	149	158	157	136
Mining	0	0	0	0
Construction	1	1	2	3
Manufacturing	25	12	13	15
TCPU	15	22	24	41
Trade	18	22	27	44
FIRE	6	7	8	12
Services	8	16	23	34
Government	122	147	160	249
Non-Farm Prop	43	49	59	100
County Total	387	434	473	634
<b>Sanpete</b>				
Agriculture	1,033	1,084	1,074	936
Mining	1	10	20	21
Construction	172	235	309	673
Manufacturing	756	911	985	1,378
TCPU	170	212	233	392
Trade	1,012	1,211	1,349	2,238
FIRE	154	159	175	270
Services	722	897	1,019	1,835
Government	2,146	2,332	2,576	3,967
Non-Farm Prop	1,202	1,364	1,534	2,615
County Total	7,368	8,415	9,274	14,325
<b>Sevier</b>				
Agriculture	613	641	635	553
Mining	330	345	347	446
Construction	249	324	411	798
Manufacturing	482	552	591	771
TCPU	488	563	615	979
Trade	1,590	1,868	2,050	3,145
FIRE	134	141	153	220
Services	1,094	1,288	1,448	2,459
Government	1,428	1,512	1,578	2,250
Non-Farm Prop	1,212	1,348	1,496	2,352
County total	7,620	8,582	9,324	13,973
<b>Basin Total</b>	<b>26,231</b>	<b>29,189</b>	<b>31,876</b>	<b>46,741</b>